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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/081,315 | 02/21/2002 | Eric H. Simonson | 1247-1 | 3847 |

7590 06/10/2004

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EXAMINER

SAVAGE, MATTHEW O

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1723

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. <i>AS</i> |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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Commissioner for Patents

Applicant's request for reconsideration on 4-5-04 is denied. Applicant's argument that amended claim 1 is a generic claim readable on the elected species 1 is not considered persuasive since amended claim 1 is to a species including two different types of end plates (e.g., a species of kit) whereas elected species 1 includes only a single end plate. In addition, the amended claims are considered to be a combination including more than one type of end plate whereas the original claims were directed to a subcombination including only one plate. The original claims/subcombination are considered distinct from the amended claims/combination since the amended claims do not require a first housing that contains both inside-out and outside-in filter elements (see amended claim 9), and because the subcombination could be used in a different combination, for example, a combination including three housing sections coupled together.

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Art Unit: 1723